



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Architectural Advisory Board Council Chambers March 2, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Roll was called at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Duggan (alternate), Mrs. Friedlander, Mr. Fritsch, Mr. Way, and Mr. Wong were present.

2. Petitions:

Mr. Dave Snyder request removal of NOVA Firearms consent item to allow for community input and feedback. In lieu of that, he requested that the board does not approve the consent item as presented.

3. Consent Calendar:

- a. AAB #20151391 - reface street sign and post manufacturer logos in 25% of windows for NOVA Firearms. The board discussed the particulars of the project and concerns while understanding that the current city code does not permit any action allowed on exterior surface murals. Mr. Way made a motion to table the item pending additional information from city staff with respect to the "post manufacturer logos in 25% of windows for NOVA Firearms". The motion was seconded by Mrs. Friedlander and passed unanimously.

4. Other Business: There was no other business

5. Old Business: There was no old business.

6. New Business:

- a. City Council Retreat

Mrs. Friedlander related to the board the discussion and topics covered during the retreat.

- City council wanted to know what works well and what doesn't in the process of reviewing and commenting on projects and initiatives.
- A shared frustration across the Boards & Commissions of a lack of cross communication was an over-laying theme of the discussion.
- Several boards/commissions working on similar or overlapping projects and the wheel gets reinvented or over-ride another board/commission's work.
- City Council proposed the creation of an interdisciplinary Committee to review development proposals, priorities and work plans.
- As the matter of an interdisciplinary committee being formed was discussed among the Board, Ms. Friedlander stated she would be open to being part of that interdisciplinary committee, if one is formed, but expressed concern about time commitments and possibly sharing the role with another Board member. Staff to keep us informed what City Council decides and if the interdisciplinary committee is formed.
- Mr. Way also expressed a need for the Board's City Council liaison to bring the AAB information about what the other Boards and Commissions are working on to see if there are areas of overlapping interests.

b. City of Falls Church Architectural Identity

Mr. Anderson briefed the board on his thoughts with respect to architectural identity within the city. With the pace of development quickening in Falls Church, there is an important opportunity to get builders thinking about how to relate their designs to the city's uniqueness. Such an effort would supplement the City's official design guidelines, published in 2001, by encouraging developers to incorporate design elements that recognize and celebrate local history, culture and values. Such architectural expression can happen through a building's form and function, with the desired result being buildings that are firmly "rooted" in the City. Mr. Anderson agreed to draft a memo on the AAB's behalf to City boards and staff, proposing a means of implementing such guidance via the special exception process.

- c. AAB policy participation through electronic means. City staff briefed the board on the nature of the policy document and next steps. The board will review and consider adoption at the next meeting.

7. Minutes:

- a. Acceptance of minutes from the January 6, 2016 AAB meeting were tabled until the next meeting.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.